

spoken they will carry on tomorrow, or at least the way would be open for them to carry on?

Mr. Douglas (Bruce-Grey): At the least the way would be open for them to carry on, yes. Ontario members will continue tonight until the ten o'clock deadline once the minister has made his remarks.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, we did it earlier tonight for a backbencher. I don't see why we shouldn't do it for a front bencher.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Will the House allow the hon. member for Westmount (Mr. Drury) to speak on the Quebec report?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert) rising on a point of order.

Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse): No, I simply wish to point out that I am pleased to give my consent, on behalf of my party, to allow a bright minister like the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Drury) to speak. I consider he has interesting things to say and he will not be able to say them tomorrow if he is not here. I thus give my consent.

[English]

OBJECTION TO COMMISSION REPORT RESPECTING QUEBEC

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, before I make a very brief intervention let me first express my gratitude to the House for doing me the courtesy of allowing me to intervene tonight rather than tomorrow.

It is not often that a member of parliament has presented to him an opportunity to welcome back into his particular sphere of interest, into his fold, a significant number of his former constituents from whom he has been separated for some years by the plans and preoccupations of redistribution.

As some hon. members will recall, I was first elected to this House in 1962 representing the constituency of St. Antoine-Westmount. However, in 1966, following redistribution, the southern portion of St. Antoine-Westmount, which included the portion of the municipal area known locally as St. Henri bounded by the CNR track and St. Jacques West, was included in the constituency now known as St. Henri. The eastern portion of the present constituency includes the western portion of the old St. Lawrence-St. George constituency; that is, the area in Montreal between Atwater and Park Avenue. I therefore welcome heartily the commissioners' decision to include in the enlarged Westmount constituency the former portion of St. Henri which I was honoured to represent and also to have expanded this area southwards and westwards.

The area bounded on the east by Peel Street, on the south by Sherbrooke Street, and on the west by Guy Street and Cote Des Neiges, contains many people who have long had a community of interest with those living in the central part of the riding. It is hoped, and in my view it is

entirely appropriate, that this relationship can and should be maintained.

With a view to achieving this I would propose that the inter constituency boundary begin and would fall naturally if a line were drawn beginning at the Camélien Houde Parkway over the mountain, down Peel Street to Sherbrooke Street West, westward along Sherbrooke Street West to Guy Street, south on Guy Street to St. Catherine Street, west on St. Catherine Street to Atwater Street. St. Henri would then include Concordia University, McGill University, Montreal High School, the Royal Victoria Hospital, as well as many historic buildings. At the same time it will leave the residents west of Peel able to continue their association with the constituency of Westmount. This line also generally separates the commercial district from the residential district.

I would like to say that it would appear that the commissioners have sought to develop and promote a social, economic, and linguistic balance which is truly representative of downtown Montreal. It was felt, therefore, following discussions with hon. members for St. Henri (Mr. Loiselle) and St. Jacques (Mr. Guilbault), that a compromise in the establishment of the boundaries in this downtown area would be most acceptable to the constituents and, therefore, hopefully to the commissioners. The other boundaries of Westmount which have been proposed by the commissioners are more than acceptable. I should like to say that these suggestions, which have a consensual basis, have been made in the spirit of co-operation to serve better the constituents of Westmount, St. Henri, and St. Jacques.

OBJECTIONS TO COMMISSION REPORT RESPECTING ONTARIO

Mr. Leonard Hopkins (Renfrew North-Nipissing East): Mr. Speaker, first of all I want to express a point of privilege rather than make a specific comment on redistribution. Earlier this evening the hon. member for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton (Mr. Dick)—I am sorry he is not in his seat to hear my remarks—was quoted as having said that he did not know very much about northern Ontario but wanted to make a few remarks about it. He then went on to talk about the northern part of my constituency and said he understood that Mattawa had a population of 5,000. The actual fact is that it has a population of 2,800 people.

He then on to another point that I personally feel he should be requested to withdraw, and that was to state that the Mattawa town council passed a resolution requesting that it come back into my constituency because four members of that council are on my association. Not one of the members of the Mattawa town council has been or is on my association. The hon. member should be requested to withdraw that remark.

To back up what I have said, the hon. member talked about the size of my riding and the fact that it had a large part of eastern Algonquin Park. I do not mind that because right now I have 30 out of 34 townships in Algonquin Park. Obviously he did not look at the present map.

These are the groups from the Mattawa area that supported returning the the new riding under redistribution; I have a list here: Mattawa Town Council, the Golden Age Club, (Senior Citizens), the Community Centre Board, the Chamber of Commerce, the Curling Club, St. Anne's